GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY

The Working of Bombay Beggars Act

ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT

for the year 1954-55

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From

Shri G. N. HARSHE,
B. A., Dip. S. S. A.,
Chief Inspector of Certified Institutions,
State of Bombay,
POONA.

B 319

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department,
BOMBAY.

Subject.—Administration Report on the working of the Bombay Beggars Act for the year 1954-55.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith the report on the working of the Bombay Beggars Act for the year ended 31st March 1955.

Personnel

2. Shri D. V. Kulkarni held the post of the Chief Inspector of Certified Institutions substantively throughout the year except for the period from the 22nd December 1954 to the 31st March 1955 when he was on leave. During his leave period of three months and ten days Shri G. N. Harshe, Inspector of Certified Schools officiated as Chief Inspector of Certified Institutions. Shri N. Rama Iyer held the post of Inspector of Certified Institutions substantively throughout the year.

Scope of work

3. The Bombay Beggars Act continued to be in operation, as reported last year, in the following areas:—

(*a*) The Town and Island of Bombay.

(*b*) The part of Thana Taluka which is encircled by the Bassein—Thana Creek including the territorial waters appertaining thereto.

(*c*) The limits of Railway lands from a point immediately beyond Thana Railway Station to the Kalyan Railway Station inclusive on the Central Railway, and

(*d*) the limits of the Railway lands from a point immediately beyond the Bhayandar Railway Station to the Virar Railway Station inclusive on the Western Railway.

(*e*) The limits of Municipal Borough of Bandra, Parle, Andheri and Kurla and the Municipal districts of Ghatkopar—Kirol and Juhu, and

(*f*) the undermentioned 28 villages of the Bombay Suburban District:—

(1) Bandivali, (2) Chembur, (3) Vadawli, (4) Ambivali, (5) Chakala, (6) Trombay, (7) Bapnala, (8) Brahmanwada, (9) Mandala, (10) Mankhurd, (11) Man Budruk, (12) Mulgaon, (13) Vesava, (14) Madh, (15) Devnar, (16) Borle, (17) Mahul, (18) Anik, (19) Kole-Kalyan, (20) Marol, (21) Mohili, (22) Maravali, (23) Mogre, (24) Shahar, (25) Nanala, (26) Saki, (27) Asalpe, (Aspa), (28) Kondivate.

4. During the year under report 1827 persons were arrested for begging as against 2,110 persons taken charge of during the previous year under the provisions of the Bombay Beggars Act. The number of persons arrested and admitted in the Receiving Centres together with those who were still under trial at the end of the previous year (228) totalled 2,055 as against 2,245 during the previous year. Out of these persons, 901 persons (618 males and 283 females) were ordered to be detained in Certified Institutions under the provisions of the Bombay Beggars Act by the Presidency Magistrate, Kurla as against 1,208 persons ordered to be detained in the previous year. Thus there is a decrease of 283 in the number of arrests during the year under report. The arrests during the year under report were less by 13.4 per cent than those during the previous year. There has been a rise of 69 in the number of arrests of male beggars whereas there has been a fall of 352 in the number of arrests of female beggars. On the whole there has been a fall of 283 in the number of arrests during the year under report as compared with the number of arrests during the previous year. The drop in the number of arrests has to be attributed to the position that a lesser number of female beggars were actually found begging when rounds were taken by the police for the purpose.

The number of beggars ordered for detention in Certified Institutions also shows a decrease by 307 whereas the number of beggars released after admonition is the same as that of the previous year. The number of beggars released after admonition during the year under report is 738 whereas it stood at 736 during the previous year. This very fact shows clearly that the court had made a very liberal use of the provision of "release after admonition" in the case of first offenders by taking into consideration the enquiries conducted by the staff of the Receiving Centres into their antecedents and home circumstances.

At the end of the year there were 285 cases pending as against 228 cases during the previous year. The court has disposed of 1,726 cases during the year under report as against 1,959 cases during the previous year.

5. As Begging is declared as a cognizable offence under the Bombay Beggars Act, the beggars taken charge of by the Police are first admitted on remand in the Receiving Centres. At the Receiving Centre, the specific condition of each beggar taken charge of is studied, medical aid is given and the beggars are sorted out into different categories such as the able-bodied, old and infirm, mentally deficient, blind, deaf and dumb, crippled, those suffering from leprosy and other infectious diseases etc. Several

A view of the four new dormitories for Males, newly, constructed at the Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.

cases of beggars admitted on remand need medical treatment and careful handling, as they are found to be in an impoverished state of health, some of them even suffering from communicable diseases. Equally important is the case work aspect of the beggar taken charge of, and the social condition of every beggar inmate is carefully studied and his antecedents are enquired into with a view to chalk out the treatment programme most suitable for the individual concerned. It is therefore the responsibility of the authorities of the Receiving Centres to complete the pre-court enquiries after a careful study of the individual concerned, with a view to obtain appropriate orders from the court.

If the court is satisfied from the circumstances of the case that the person declared as a beggar is not likely to beg again or his relatives could look after him and stand surety for his abstaining from begging, the beggar is released after due admonition on bond. Full advantage is taken of the provisions contained in the Act for release of the beggars after due admonition, and very often reconciliation is brought about between the relatives of beggars living in rural and upcountry areas and the beggars are restored to their homes in cases where rehabilitation is possible.

But destitute beggars who have no homes where they could be sent to, need institutional care and treatment. Able-bodied professional beggars who have lost contact with their homes need training in a craft or industry while under institutional treatment, so that habits of work could be inculcated in them with a view to arrange for their release after training, keeping in view their need for securing employment and eventual rehabilitation. Rehabilitation arrangements particularly in respect of destitute female beggars are often beset with many difficulties. Treatment has to be meted out according to different age groups and especially in the case of female beggars, sufficient protection has to be extended to those who are likely to fall into moral danger. Thus in actual working the Bombay Beggars Act is found to be an overall piece of legislation capable of offering solution to many of the social evils in society.

6. Disabled beggars, blind and dumb, crippled, and those suffering from lunacy and leprosy need specialized treatment and accordingly commitment orders are obtained from the court in favour of the different institutions as mentioned in Appendix I.

7. As noted in the previous report, the Superintendent, Beggars Home for Males, Worli and the Lady Superintendent, Beggars Home for Females, Chembur continued to function as Officers-in-Charge of the Receiving Centres for Males and Females respectively.

The new building intended for the Receiving Centre for Females was still under construction in the course of the year and hence the female beggars taken charge of were continued to be accommodated in a portion of the Beggars Home for Females, Chembur as in previous years. The male beggars were kept in separate dormitories of the Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur. With the co-operation of the Police selective arrests were arranged for and the arrests were regulated mostly according to the accommodation available in the Receiving Centres for males and

females respectively and the vacancies that existed from time to time in the different categories of institutions as enumerated in Appendix I.

During the year under report the structures required for providing additional accommodation were under construction. Four cheap type dormitories have now been added on to the buildings of the Receiving Centre for Males and a dormitory for accommodating female leprosy beggars on remand was also completed at the female section of the Receiving Centre. The new buildings are a welcome addition to the Receiving Centre, Chembur and with the amplification of the staff that has now been made, great progress is envisaged in the near future in the working of the Beggars Scheme within the limits of Greater Bombay.

8. Appendix III gives an idea of the classification of beggars who were admitted in Certified Institutions according to their physical and mental conditions. Out of 901 beggars detained in different Certified Institutions, 379 male persons were able-bodied and the rest were physically or mentally handicapped. The percentage of the able-bodied is 42.06 as against 42.4 during the previous year while the percentage of physically and mentally handicapped beggars detained in the different institutions comes to 57.94 as against 57.6 per cent during the previous year.

9. Appendix III-A gives an idea of the classification of beggars according to different age groups. Out of 901 beggars detained in the Certified Institutions the largest number comes from the age group of 26-40 years so far as male beggars are concerned i.e. 272 persons while 225 persons come from the age group of 41 and above. Comparatively the number of beggars within the age group of 16 to 25 years is less than those within the age groups of 26 to 40 and 41 and above. As many as 121 beggars below the age limit of 25 years are admitted during the year under report, the percentage of which works at 13.43 as against 20 per cent found during the previous year. The majority of the male beggars comes from within the age group of 26 to 40 while the majority of the female beggars comes from within the age group of 41 and above.

10. Out of the total number of 901 beggars detained during the year under report, 770 persons were admitted for the first time and 131 for the second and subsequent offences. The percentage of recidivism during the year under report works out to 14.54 (131 persons) as against 8.44 (102 persons) during the previous year (please see Appendices IV and V). These figures show that a larger number of persons have been arrested again for begging from among those who have been released on license or on expiry of their detention period from the Certified Institutions.

11. Appendix VI gives the statistics of the domicile of beggars detained in Certified Institutions in the State of Bombay during the year under report. Of the 901 persons under detention, 515 beggars belonged to the State of Bombay while the remaining 386 had their domicile outside the State of Bombay. The percentage of outsiders coming from places other than the State of Bombay works out to be 42.84 as against 65.64 per cent during the previous year. There is thus still a large percentage of beggars hailing from outside the State of Bombay, who have been detained in the institutions in the State of Bombay.

A view of the Beggars Home, Virar, with some Inmates. "They Play Too".

The Junior Supervisor of the Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur, conducting pre-court enquiries of new arrivals at the Receiving Centre.

In most of the States there is as yet no legislation similar to the Bombay Beggars Act, 1945 and thus the transfer of beggars from this State to other States is not possible on a reciprocal basis, as a result of which the rehabilitation of beggars on a regional basis constitutes a problem. That is why it was suggested in the previous report that the problem of beggary needs to be tackled on a country-wide basis by a central legislation.

Institutions

12. Appendix I gives the names of the Receiving Centres and Institutions certified under the Bombay Beggars Act as stood on 31st March 1955. During the year under report two more private institutions have been certified under section 11 of the Bombay Beggars Act for the admission of statutory male leprosy beggars and statutory female blind and disabled beggars. They are (1) The Eduljee Framjee Allbless Leprosy Home, Trombay and (2) The Haji Allarakhia Sonavala Andh and Anath Stree Ashram, Andheri. The following institutions call for special remarks and are therefore dealt with at some length.

13. *Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.*—The Superintendent, Beggars Home for Males, Worli, functioned as Officer-in-Charge, Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur. During the year under report no less than 1157 male beggars have been arrested under the Bombay Beggars Act and admitted in this Receiving Centre as against 1088 during the previous year. The inmates of the Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur were kept occupied in gardening and other institutional work. A policy of selective arrests, as reported in the previous year has been followed as far as possible by a member of the staff of the Receiving Centre accompanying the police party at the time of the arrest.

14. *Receiving Centre for Females, Chembur.*—It is observed that the number of persons arrested and brought to the Receiving Centre for Females is 670 during the year under report as against the number of 1022 during the previous year. Thus there has been a fall by 352 in the number of women arrested and brought to the Receiving Centre for Females. The Officer-in-Charge for Females explains the fall as under:—

> "The number of women arrested during the year was comparatively less than during the previous year in spite of the efforts made by this office. Special raids were arranged on the Central Railway with a view to arresting as many women beggars as possible but very few women could be arrested on these two occasions."

15. *Beggars Home for Males, Worli.*—At the close of the previous year this institution had a population of 181. The number increased to 200 at the end of the year under report. There was an increase of 19 inmates in spite of the fact that 95 inmates were released during the year under report from the institution.

16. *Beggars Home for Females, Chembur.*—The population of the Home was 384 in the beginning of the year which fell down to 264 at the end of the year. It will be seen from Appendix XI that while only 93 women were ordered to be detained in the institution the number of women released, transferred or who died or escaped from the institution comes

to 213 during the year under report. Lesser number of admissions and a greater number of releases are responsible for the fall in the population of the institution towards the end of the year under report.

17. *Beggars Home for Males, Visapur.*—It will be found from Appendix XI that there were 427 inmates in the beginning of the year and the number went up to 471 towards the end of the year under report. This institution has a maximum capacity for 500 inmates with facilities for giving them training in various crafts and industries.

18. *Leprosy Hospital, Pui.*—The Leprosy Hospital, Pui though originally meant for providing accommodation for statutory beggars of both the sexes suffering from leprosy picked up under the provisions of the Bombay Beggars Act was later on notified under the Indian Leprosy Act and is thus under the administrative control of the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay. The Hospital had a population of 96 under the Bombay Beggars Act at the end of the previous year whereas it went to 101 at the end of the year under report. 38 statutory beggars suffering from leprosy were newly admitted in this institution during the year while 17 beggars were released and 14 others transferred to other institutions.

19. *Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home for the Destitute, Bombay.*—Old and infirm, disabled and crippled beggars are admitted in the Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home for the Destitute. The population of the Home in the beginning of the year was 298 whereas towards the end of the year under report it went down to 277. 222 statutory beggars were admitted to this institution newly during the year as per commitment orders passed by the court, while 16 others were transferred to this Home from other institutions. As against this, 182 beggar inmates were released from the institution and 55 others transferred to other institutions during the year. The Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home for the Destitute is the biggest private institution certified under section 11 of the Bombay Beggars Act and it is also one of the oldest in the matter of certification, admitting upto a maximum of 300 beggars of both sexes.

20. *Planning for Rehabilitation of Beggar Inmates.*—The inmates of the Beggars Homes in the State of Bombay come from all parts of the country. They speak different languages, some are deaf and dumb, disabled, crippled, blind or otherwise handicapped persons, while others even including the able-bodied persons do not settle down to institutional life easily. Accustomed to a wandering and irresponsible life, strenuous efforts are required to organise crafts and industries in the institutions with a view to give training to these inmates. But unless various trades and industries are started in the institutions, the beggars ordered for detention cannot be imparted proper training and their habits improved by straightening them while under training by a course of discipline keeping in view their need for employment on release and eventual rehabilitation in Society. With this object in view various trades and crafts are organised in the institutions. Appendix VIII gives the list of industries and the different kinds of vocational training imparted in the institutions. However a brief account of some of the industries in the different major institutions is given here by way of elucidation.

Beggars Home for Females, Chembur, Tailoring and Spinning Section.

21. The Beggars Home for Females, Chembur is primarily designed to accommodate able-bodied female beggars with a view to training them in crafts and useful occupations. The following gives an idea of the progress made in the institution in the various industries:—

(1) *Weaving.*—Progress in weaving of sarees was rather slow in the beginning as many of the inmates were new and needed training. But when once, the initial difficulties were overcome and training was imparted to selected inmates, it was seen they could make fair progress and now efforts are being made to meet the entire requirements of sarees for the institution from its own looms.

(2) Tailoring.—Orders for stitching were obtained on a large scale from the Central Purchasing Officer and other hospital authorities and on the whole this section has made good progress and a revenue of Rs. 2,050 was realised.

(3) Gardening and Agriculture.—Fifty inmates were kept occupied in agricultural occupations, gardening and vegetable cultivation as the institution has on its premises about 12 acres of land. The yield from the farm was utilised for institutional consumption. Towards the close of the year, a pair of bullocks, agricultural implements and an oil engine have been purchased and agriculture and vegetable cultivation is now expected to progress by rapid strides.

22. *Beggars Home for Males, Worli.*—This institution has two major industries—namely—Tailoring and Weaving. About 23 inmates used to work in the Tailoring Section and get training in this craft. The total income derived from this section amounted to Rs. 2,173-12-0. Weaving was started during the year under report under one Weaving Mukadam. On an average 20 inmates were engaged in this industry daily. Towards the end of the year under report two more hand-looms were added to this section with the idea of expanding the industry. It is hoped that as a result of the expansion about 50 inmates would be engaged in the industry. The income from this industry amounted to Rs. 114-8-6 during the year under report.

Other minor occupations are Laundry, Gardening and Kitchen work. The income from Laundry was Rs. 212-10-3 and about 6 inmates were engaged on an average in this work. 25 inmates were engaged on an average in Gardening and Kitchen work.

23. *Beggars Home for Males, Visapur.*—This is the biggest institution for beggars in the State the maximum capacity of which is 500 inmates. This institution has the following crafts and cottage industries as per report of the Superintendent.

Name	Income
(1) Weaving—	
By sale	Rs. 9,268- 6- 9
By supply to institution	„ 4,042-10- 2½
	Rs. 13,311- 0-11½

Name		Income
(2) Tailoring—		
By wages	Rs.	440-11- 0
By supply to institution	„	8,339-14- 0
	Rs.	8,780 -9- 0
(3) Carpentry, Smithy and Cane work—		
By sale	Rs.	1,541- 7- 3
By supply to institution	„	708- 2- 8
	Rs.	2,249- 9-11
(4) Leather work—		
By sale	Rs.	1,183- 3- 3
By supply to institution	„	500- 0- 6
	Rs.	1,683- 3- 9
(5) Laundry—		
By wages	Rs.	533-11- 6
(6) Oil Pressing—		
By supply to institution	„	2,354- 8- 2
(7) Poultry farming—		
By sale	„	684-12- 0
(8) Agricultural Section, Visapur—		
Production	„	7,016- 8- 0
(9) Agricultural Section, Ghaipatwadi—		
Production	„	3,534- 4- 4
(10) Agricultural Section, Undirgaon—		
Production	„	1,620- 8- 6

24. *During the year under report the Sisal Estate, Shrigonda, District.*—Ahmednagar has been transferred to the Beggars home for Males, Visapur. In this respect the report from the Superintendent, Beggars Home for Males, Visapur is reproduced below:—

"The new activity of the year 1954-55 is that a Sub-Home at Ghaipatwadi, Taluka—Shrigonda, District Ahmednagar was started on 24-5-1954 and Shri V. S. Salunke, Agriculture Assistant was sent along with 8 inmates to start the work. In the beginning the work of cultivating 75 acres and 25 gunthas of land for food grains was taken in hand; out of this area, 19 acres and 20 gunthas of land was brought under cultivation before monsoon started, and in September 1954 rest of the

A group of Leprosy inmates working in the garden at the Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur. These inmates grow vegetables for the use of the Institution.

The boy in the foreground is a positive case of leprosy. He was arrested with his mother under the Bombay Beggars Act. His mother is an inmate of the Female Beggars Home, Chembur, but she is negative for leprosy.

land was brought under cultivation. It will be seen that during 1954-55 different grains worth Rs. 3,534-4-4 were produced. Raspador machine which is available at Ghaipatwadi helped to produce sisal fibre which was used for institutional purposes. As the existing Sisal plants on the estate have been planted number of years back, the growth is stunted and not up to the mark. It has therefore been decided to replant sisal every year, by stages. During the year under report one plot of sisal plantation has been mended by putting up suckers where the lime was broken. Since May 1954 in all 70 inmates were sent to the Sub-Home. Every possible effort has been made and also will be made to make the Home self supporting and an ideal one."

A vast area of land consisting of 460 acres and three wells given up by the Village Industries Organisation, Maharashtra Region, has been taken up by this Department for sisal cultivation and inter-cultivation of food crops with the help of the inmates' labour. It is a long range scheme and a committee has been appointed to review the working of the Sisal Fibre Centre, Ghaipatwadi and a skeleton staff has been sanctioned to start the revivification of the Sisal Fibre Centre, Ghaipatwadi, Shrigonda.

25. *Leprosy Hospital, Pui.*—This institution, though financed by this Department, is under the control of the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay. The accommodation of this institution has been extended recently from 200 to 300 leprosy inmates and buildings for this purpose are still to be constructed. The Hospital owns 16 acres of land of which 10 acres are cultivable. 50 patients are regularly engaged in Agriculture and Gardening. The produce from this land during the year 1954-55 was worth Rs. 5,980-9-0 as per report of the Superintendent. Besides Agriculture and Gardening, the industries of Spinning and Weaving, Tailoring, Bidi making and Poultry Farming are run by the Hospital for the benefit of the leprosy patients. To add to these, barbers, dhobies, hamals, dressers and injectors are selected from among the inmates of the Hospital and made to do those duties.

26. *Literacy Education.*—Literacy classes are also conducted in the institutions as far as possible based on the co-operation of voluntary social workers and institutional staff.

The Superintendent, Leprosy Hospital, Pui reports that 16 males and 4 females were taking advantage of literacy classes. The classes are registered by the Educational Department, and once the classes have been examined by them.

27. *Health and Sanitation.*—The general health of the inmates in all the institutions was on the whole satisfactory throughout the year and there were no major epidemics during the year under report.

The Officer-in-Charge, Receiving Centre for Females, Chembur reports on the general health of the inmates:—

"General health of the inmates and their children was below normal. With medical treatment and good diet, most of these women showed signs of improvement. There were only 4 deaths, while on remand. Able-bodied women on remand were given light work—washing of

their own clothes, cleanliness of dormitory and premises etc. as most of these women disliked work due to sheer idleness. Children below five were seen playing in the Children's Section and much improvement was seen in their physical and mental health during the period."

The Superintendent, Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home for the Destitute, Bombay reports:—

"The health of the inmates in general has improved greatly and the death rate has dropped considerably during the year. All the inmates were vaccinated against Smallpox and typhoid injections were given. Malaria preventive methods were employed by the Municipality as usual and there have been very few cases. We do appreciate the services which have been rendered to the inmates by the K. E. M. Hospital, Bombay; many have been sent daily and thrice weekly for treatment."

The Superintendent, Beggars Home for Males, Visapur reports in this respect:—

"General health of the inmates during the period was satisfactory. There was no epidemic of any infectious disease. All the inmates were given small pox vaccine as a prophylactic measure.

Prophylactic measures to prevent malaria are taken by spraying D. D. T. As far as possible inmates are treated in the institution for most of their ailments, but when it is found that they require some special examination and treatment they are sent to Civil Hospital for the same."

28. *Casualties.*—Appendix X shows that the total number of deaths during the year under report in all the institutions together was 85 as against 123 during the previous year. Thus there has been a decrease in the number of deaths by 38. Prompt and timely measures have been taken by the authorities of the institutions in respect of matters of health and sanitation.

29. *Outside Employment.*—As stated in the previous report the scheme of outside employment was first introduced in the year 1952-53. Since then it has been making steady and continuous progress. In this respect the Superintendent, Beggars Home for Males, Worli states as under:—

"The main emphasis from the point of rehabilitation was laid on securing outside employment for the able-bodied inmates. During the year under report 104 inmates could be found outside employment. Their daily earnings varied from Re. 1 to Rs. 3-11-0. The total amount earned by the inmates under the Outside Employment Scheme was Rs. 31,930-10-6 out of which Rs. 5,693-11-0 were credited as Government revenue.

Over 75 Industrial Firms were contacted either by correspondence or personally in order to secure outside employment. The response was not very satisfactory. The following firms and offices co-operated with us in the matter of employment for the able-bodied—

(1) The Bombay Port Trust, Bombay.

(2) Messers. Glaxo Laboratory (India) Ltd., Worli, Bombay.

(3) Bombay Housing Division, P. W. D.

Beggars Home for Females, Chembur, Paddy Cultivation by Japanese Method.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude for their valuable co-operation in solving the problem of rehabilitation to a great extent.

A note-worthy feature of the Scheme was that all the inmates proceeded to their work centres and returned to the institution unescorted. The trust placed in the inmates was fully justified in view of the fact that there were practically no escapes.

Achievement.—The inmates of the Home purchased National Savings and National Plan Certificates to the tune of Rs. 1,100 from their own earnings.

The inmates are encouraged to send money earned by them to their dependents at their native place at their own cost. A total amount of over Rs. 1,500 was sent by the inmates by the way of money order to their relatives.

The earning inmates of the Home are encouraged to make petty purchases from their own earnings under the guidance and supervision of the Home authorities."

This scheme of outside employment has been adopted in the Beggars Home for Males, Visapur, the Beggars Home for Females, Chembur and the Beggars Home, Odhav, Ahmedabad. The wages earned by the inmates from outside employment in each of the above three Homes are:—

Name		Amount		
Beggars Home for Males, Visapur	...	1,188	5	6
Beggars Home for Females, Chembur	...	702	5	6
Beggars Home, Odhav, Ahmedabad	...	2,900	0	0

30. *Visiting Committees and Releases.*—Appendix IX gives the analysis of the releases during the year under report. Releases after the expiry of the period of detention ordered by the court numbered 332 males and 250 females as against 333 males and 207 females during the previous year. Visiting Committees of the Beggars Home for Males, Visapur, the Beggars Home for Females, Chembur and the Receiving Centre, Chembur did not function during the year under report as non-official members were not appointed on the respective committees. There was however one meeting of the Advisory Committee for the limits of Greater Bombay during the year under report.

31. The number of inmates released conditionally under section 401, Criminal Procedure Code, by Government is 29 males and 6 females as against 31 males and 6 females in the previous year. The number of inmates released on licence within the State of Bombay under section 20 (*i*) of the Bombay Beggars Act by the Chief Inspector of Certified Institutions was 69 males and 27 females as against 30 males and 17 females during the previous year.

The number of releases depends mainly on the home circumstances of the inmates and completion of satisfactory enquiries. Well behaved inmates who complete a satisfactory period of training in a craft, and others for whom outside employment is secured are expeditiously released.

32. *Recreation and Amenities.*—In almost all the institutions the inmates are provided with facilities for indoor and outdoor games. They are encouraged to take part in sports and games along with the staff members.

In addition to the usual Indian games, volley-ball, film shows and singing of bhajans form a major part of the recreative activities of the inmates in all the Beggars Homes. The Superintendent, beggars Home for Males, Visapur reports that volley-ball, carrom, film shows and singing of bhajans form major items of recreational activities.

Several articles manufactured at this institution were exhibited in Poona, Bombay, Kopargaon, Kashti and Kedgaon exhibitions, and they have been considerably appreciated. The working of the institution, the set up of the whole work, its aims and objects were explained through appropriate posters. The Poultry Section fetched prizes at the Kopargaon exhibition and the Muscary Ducks fetched the 1st prize at the Bombay State exhibition.

The Lady Superintendent, Beggars Home for Females, Chembur, reports "The students coming from the Tata Institute for their field work also arranged outdoor and indoor games for the able-bodied sensible inmates twice a week and story telling was one of the interesting items. Film shows were arranged occasionally mainly on behalf of Prohibition Department, Director of Publicity and Inspector of Visual Education to whom this institution is highly grateful. One film "वहिनीच्या बांगड्या" was shown to the inmates and the staff members of the beggars Home for Females, Chembur. Radio was on in the afternoon and in the evening."

The Superintendent, Beggars Home for Males, Worli, reports that a reading room with Hindi, Marathi and other regional language dailies and weeklies has been provided for the use of the inmates. Both indoor and outdoor games are provided. Inmates going for outside work as well as some trustworthy well behaved inmates are allowed to go out for entertainments unescorted.

Educational and light entertainment film shows were arranged in the Home through the kind co-operation of the Inspector for Visual Education, Bombay State.

33. *Miscellaneous.*—Festivals of national rejoicing and important religious days were also celebrated in the institutions. On such days influential members of the public were invited to preside over the functions and address the inmates. The institutions celebrated the Republic Day, the Independence Day, the Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti and the Vana Mahotsava Day. On Vana Mahotsava Day at the Beggars Home for Females, Chembur Shri Bowman, Collector of Bombay planted cocoanut and mango trees in the compound of the new Receiving Centre and addressed the inmates in Marathi. Similarly religious festivals like Divali were celebrated by the inmates with great enthusiasm.

34. *Finance.*—The direct recurring and non-recurring expendituer for the year 1954-55 (apart from the expenditure in connection with the buildings, repairs etc. charged to 50-Civil Works) is Rs. 8,75,742.

Beggars Home for Females, Chembur, Distribution of Milk to Children.

35. *Visitors.*—A number of visitors both officials and non-officials visited the various Beggars Homes and expressed their satisfaction at the working of the institutions. The following may be mentioned among some of them:—

Name of visitor	Name of the Institution visited
Members of the Anti-Beggary Committee, Government of Madhya Bharat, Gwalior.	Beggars Home for Males, Worli.
Shri D. S. Joshi, I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay.	Do.
Shri P. R. Nayak, I.C.S., Municipal Commissioner, Bombay.	Do.
Shri D. S. Borkar, Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, Bombay.	Do.
Shri R. G. Salvi, Deputy Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay.	Beggars Home for Females, Chembur.
Shri V. V. Shastri, *Planning Commission*, New Delhi.	Do.
Shri J. S. Dawda, Presidency Magistrate, XI Court, Kurla.	Do.
Dr. Shri P. Kapoor, Special Leprosy Officer.	Leprosy Hospital, Pui.
Shri Yeshwant Rao Chavan, Honourable Minister for Local Self Government & Forests.	Do.
Shri D. V. Patel, Mayor of Bombay.	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.
Members of the Advisory Committee for Greater Bombay under the Bombay Beggars Act.	Do.

36. General.—During the year under report, the question of applying the Bombay Beggars Act to the limits of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation again came up to the forefront. With the co-operation of the Municipal Corporation, Ahmedabad a scheme for constructing additional dormitories in the premises of the Shri Bhikabhai Sankalchand Satia Beggars Home, Odhav, Ahmedabad to serve as receiving centre for male and female beggars and for utilising other Government buildings at Naroda and Dabhoda near Ahmedabad for the purpose of detention homes is submitted to Government, and is under consideration. Ahmedabad being an industrial centre, second only to Bombay, the needs of this city have to be given priority.

The application of the Act to other centres like Poona, Nasik, Pandharpur, Sholapur, Belgaum and Dharwar has also to be considered. When the municipal authorities of these cities agree to co-operate with Government by sharing at least a part of the expenditure of introducing the Beggars Scheme in their respective areas further progress could be made. Able-bodied professional beggars need vigorous and intensive training in suitable crafts and industries, and unless detention homes with this object in view are established in the respective areas the Act cannot be applied. Similarly, specialised institutions capable of accommodating the blind, crippled, disabled, diseased, physically and mentally handicapped persons have to be established with suitable occupational thereby before such beggars are taken charge of under the Act.

37. *Conclusion.*—Thanks are due to the various social service organisations for their continued co-operation in accommodating the statutory beggars in their institutions and to the various associations for sparing their probation officers for making home enquiries of beggar inmates referred to them.

Thanks are also due to the various employers of labour for their co-operating with the institutions of this department in employing the inmates of the institutions in their workshops and factories and thereby solving the problem of rehabilitation of beggar inmates to the extent that would be possible.

Yours faithfully,

G. N. HARSHE,

Chief Inspector of Certified Institutions,
State of Bombay, Poona.

APPENDICES I To XI

APPENDIX I

Names of Institutions established or certified under the Bombay Beggars Act as stood on 31st March 1955

Serial No.	Name of the Institution.	District.	Authority under which opened.	Name of the management of the institution.	Type of beggar inmates.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Receiving Centre for Females, Chembur.	Bombay ...	G. N. H. D. No. 1687/5 of 5th June 1947.	Government ...	Female beggars under trial with chilldern below 5 years of age.
2	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.	Do. ...	G. N. H. D. No. 1687/5 of 26th February 1949.	Do. ...	Male beggars under trial.
3	Beggars Home for Males, Visapur	Ahmednagar	G. N. H. D. No. 7701/4-1921 of 14th March 1946.	Do. ...	Able-bodied male beggars.
4	Beggars Home for Females, Chembur, Bombay (with an Annex for female blind beggars.)	Bombay ...	Do. Do.	Do. ...	Able-bodied female beggars with childern below 5 years of age. (Blind women are accommodated in the Annex for female blind beggars.)
5	Beggars Home for Males, Worli...	Do. ...	G. N. H. D. No. 9606/5 of 27th December 1949.	Do. ...	Able-bodied male beggars.
6	Beggars Colony for Leprosy Patients, Pui.	Kolaba ...	G. N. H. D. No. 7701/4-1921 of 14th March 1946.	Do. ...	Leprosy beggars males and females.
7	Central Mental Hospital, Yeravda.	Poona ...	Do. Do.	Do. ...	Male and female lunatic beggars.
8	N. M. Mental Hospital, Thana ...	Thana ...	Do. Do.	Do. ...	Do.

9	King George V Infirmary ...	Bombay ...	G. N. H. D. No. 7701/4-1921 of 21st August 1946.	King George V Memorial.	Infirm, bed-ridden beggars males and females.
10	Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home for the Destitute.	Do. ...	G. N. H. D. No. 7701/4-1921 of 14th March 1946.	Do. ...	Infirm and crippled beggars males and females.
11	Mental Hospital, Dharwar ...	Dharwar ..	Do. Do.	Government ...	Male and female lunatic beggars.
12	Mental Hospital, Ratnagiri ...	Ratanagiri...	Do. Do.	Do. ...	Do.
13	Mental Hospital, Ahmedabad ...	Ahmedabad.	Do. Do.	Do. ...	Do.
14	Acwoth Leprosy Home, Matunga	Bombay ...	G. N. H. D. No. 6318/5-1921 of 15th October 1948.	Private ...	Leprosy beggars male and female.
15	Poona School and Home for the Blind, Poona.	Poona ...	G. N. H. D. No. 230/6 of 27th July 1950.	Do. ...	Blind male beggars.
16	David Sassoon Infirm Asylum, Poona.	Do. ...	G. N. H. D. No. 8754/5 of 31st July 1950.	Do. ...	Crippled beggars of either sex.
17	Shri Bhikabhai Sakalchand Satia Beggars Home, Odhav.	Ahmedabad.	G. N. H. D. No. 4393/5-II of 11th July 1952.	Government ...	Male beggars.
18	Beggars Home, Virar ...	Thana ...	G. R. H. D. No. No. 1895/6 of 11th November 1953.	Do. ...	Able-bodied male beggars.
19	Eduljee Framjee Allbless Leprosy Home, Trombay, Bombay.	Bombay ...	G. N. H. D. No. BBA. 5053/5627 of 2nd February 1955.	Private ...	Leprosy male beggars.
20	Haji Allarakhia Sonavala Andh, and Anath Stree Ashram, Andheri, Bombay.	Do. ...	G. N. H. D. No. BBA. 5053/15992 of 21st February 1955.	Do. ...	Blind female beggars.

APPENDIX II

Analysis of beggars tried by the Court for the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955

1	Cases pending on 1st April 1954.				Number of persons newly arrested and admitted on remand.	Grand Total.	Released under Section 5 (3) before conviction.	Released under Section 5 (5) with admonition.	Detained in Institutions under Section 5 (5).	Cases taken to dormant file.	Deaths while undertrial.	Cases transferred to Juvenile Court as inmates were found below age.	Escapes while under trial.	Sent to Prison under section 6 (2) of Bombay Beggars Act.	Cases pending on 31st March 1955.				Grand total.
	Custody.	Under treatment in hospital.	Bailed out.	Total.											Custody.	Bailed out.	Under treatment in Hospital.	Total.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Males ...	51	21	6	78	1157	1235	27	403	618	18	4	1	...	...	125	14	25	164	1235
Females ...	62	...	88	150	670	820	49	335	283	22	4	1	4	1	41	51	29	121	820
Total ...	113	21	94	228	1827	2055	76	738	901	40	8	2	4	1	166	65	54	285	2055

APPENDIX III

Analysis of beggar inmates detained in Certified Institutions for the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955

Serial No.	Particulars.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1	Lunatic ...	...	1	1
2	Blind	74	10	84
3	Deaf-Mute ...	5	7	12
4	V. D. ...	...	101	101
5	T. B. ...	1	4	5
6	Leprosy patients ...	16	5	21
7	Old, Infirm and Crippled ...	143	155	298
8	Able-bodied ...	379	...	379
	Total ...	618	283	901

APPENDIX III-A

Classification of detained beggars according to age for the year 1954-55

	16 to 25 years.	26 to 40 years.	41 and above years.	Total.
Males ...	121	272	225	618
Females. ...	14	76	193	283
Total ...	135	348	418	901

APPENDIX IV

Classification of beggar inmates according to period of detention during the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955 (committed for the first time)

S. No.	Name of institution.	Total No. of inmates.		For one year or less.		1 to 2 years.		2 to 3 years.		Above 3 years.		Total.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.	517	...	506	...	10	...	1	...	...	...	517	...
2	Receiving Centre for Females, Chembur.	...	253	...	220	...	30	...	3	...	...	...	253
	Total ...	517	253	506	220	10	30	1	3	...	...	517	253

APPENDIX V

Classification of beggar inmates convicted for the second time and subsequently and detained in Certified Institutions for the period from 1st April 1954 to 1st March 1955.

S. No.	Particulars.	Detention for second conviction.	Detention for subsequent conviction.	No. of inmates.		Period of detention.					Total.
				Males.	Females.	1 year.	1 to 2 years.	2 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.	4 to 5 years.	
1	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.	95	6	101	...	15	8	...	72	6	101
2	Receiving Centre for Females, Chembur.	26	4	...	30	...	...	...	26	4	30
	Total ...	121	10	101	30	15	8	...	98	10	131

APPENDIX VI

Analysis of beggar inmates detained during the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955
(according to domicile)

S. No.	Name of Institution.	Belonging to Bombay City.		Other districts of the State. Bombay State.		Other States of the Indian Union State wise.		Not known.		Other than Indian Union.		Total.
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females	Males.	Females.	
1	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.	260	...	70	...	273	...	5	...	10	...	618
2	Receiving Centre for Females, Chembur.	...	15	...	170	...	78	...	10	...	10	283
	Total ...	260	15	70	170	273	78	5	10	10	10	901

APPENDIX VII

Analysis of escapes during the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955

S. No.	Name of the Institution.	Escapes during the year. 1954-55.	Absconders in column 3 traced and readmitted.	Absconders who remained untraced from the No. of absconders of the year 1954-55.	No. of absconders on 1st April 1954.	Traced from among Absconders of column 6.	No. of inmates escaped during previous years and remained untraced.	No. of inmates at large on 31st March 1955.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur...	14	10	4	36	...	36	40
2	Beggars Home for Females, Chembur...	14	4	10	12	...	12	22
3	Beggars Home for Males, Visapur ...	41	2	39	82	...	82	121
4	Beggars Home for Males, Worli ...	34	...	34	47	...	47	81
5	Leprosy Hospital, Pui ...	1	...	1	146	5	141	142
6	Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home, Bombay	6	...	6	116	...	116	122
7	Acworth Leprosy Home, Matunga ...	7	...	7	60	...	60	67
8	Poona School and Home for the Blind, Poona.	18	...	18	30	...	30	48
9	David Sassoon Infirm Asylum, Poona.	16	...	16	56	...	56	72
10	Shri Bhikabhai Sankalchand Satia Beggars Home, Odhav, Ahmedabad.	13	3	10	12	1	11	21
11	Beggars Home, Virar ...	37	...	37	3	...	3	40
	Total ...	201	19	182	600	6	594	776

APPENDIX VIII

Statement showing trades introduced and the number of inmates employed during the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	No. of inmates imparted training during the period.														No. of inmates under training on 31st March 1955.											
		Outside employment.	Tailoring and Button making.	Gardening and Agriculture including poultry.	Spinning on charkha and takli.	Clay modelling.	Laundry Section.	Knitting.	Weaving.	Carpentry and Cane work.	General Household work.	Brooms and Coir making.	Miscellaneous.	Leather work.	Oil pressing.	Total No. of inmates imparted training during the year.	Outside employment.	Laundry section.	Tailoring and Button making.	Gardening and Agriculture including poultry.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Carpentry and Cane work.	General Household work.	Miscellaneous.	Clay modelling.	Knitting.	Brooms and Coir making.	Leather work.	Oil pressing.	Total No. of inmates under training on 31st March 1955.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
1	Beggars Home for Males, Worli.	104	65	77	...	...	25	...	58	...	88	...	...	...	...	417	45	5	28	20	...	30	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
2	Beggars Home for Females, Chembur.	...	20	50	25	10	20	20	30	10	10	15	25	...	...	235	...	12	24	35	8	25	10	5	30	10	10	15	...	...	184

3	Beggars Home for Males, Visapur.	...	40	200	20	...	10	...	60	31	7	...	10	14	9	401	...	5	31	190	10	64	35	7	7	...	...	...	10	5	365
4	Leprosy Hospital, Pui ...	...	2	50	10	...	...	...	4	1	15	...	13	...	...	95	...	...	1	6	8	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
5	Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home, Bombay.	...	12	4	3	...	...	2	4	...	4	...	30	...	...	59	...	...	3	...	...	1	1	4	43	...	...	10	...	...	62
6	Shri Bhikabhai Sankalchand Satia Beggars Home, Odhav, Ahmedabad.	...	7	15	...	...	2	...	...	...	8	...	3	..	.	35	...	...	5	5		...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	10
7	David Sassoon Infirm Asylum, Poona.	...	...	36	5	1	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	25	5	5	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	39
8	Beggars Home, Virar ...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
9	Poona School and Home for the Blind, Poona.	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
10	N. M. Mental Hospital, Thana.	...	3	5	...	...	...	3	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..
	Total ...	104	149	445	63	11	57	28	163	45	152	15	81	14	9	1,336	45	24	92	299	31	126	54	46	80	11	13	25	10	5	851

APPENDIX IX

Analysis of beggar inmates released during the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955

S. No.	Name of Institution.	Released at the end of the detention period.		Released conditionally under section 401, C. P. C.		Released on licence under section 20 (i), B. B. Act.		Cases set aside by the High Court.		Total.
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.	13	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	18
2	Beggars Home for Females, Chembur.	...	157	...	3	...	20	...	1	181
3	Beggars Home for Males, Worli ...	52	0	1	0	42	0	0	0	95
4	Beggars Home for Males, Visapur ...	136	0	18	0	9	0	0	0	163
5	Leprosy Hospital, Pui ...	14	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
6	King George V Infirmary, Bombay...	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
7	Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home, Bombay.	77	84	5	3	8	5	0	0	182
8	Poona School and Home for the Blind, Poona.	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	10
9	Shri Bhikabhai Sankalchand Satia Beggars Home, Odhav, Ahmedabad.	17	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	25
10	Beggars Home, Virar ...	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	9
11	David Sasson Infirm Asylum, Poona.	4	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	11
	Total ...	332	250	29	6	69	27	0	1	714

APPENDIX X

Analysis of deaths during the period from 1st April 1954 to 31st March 1955

Serial No.	Name of the institution.	No. of deaths.		Causes of deaths.														Total No. of deaths.	Remarks.
		Males.	Females.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Anaemia	Congestive cardiac failure.	T. B.	Typhoid.	General Debility.	Pneumonia.	Committed suicide.	Senile debility.	Asthma.	Malignant tumours.	Diphtheria.	Chronic Nephritis.	Other causes.	Total number of deaths.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.	11	0	...	...	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	
2	Beggars Home for Females, Chembur.	0	22	...	2	3	1	...	6	...	...	...	...	4	1	0	5	22	
3	Beggars Home for Males, Worli ...	4	2	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	
4	Beggars Home for Males, Visapur ...	4	0	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	4	
5	Leprosy Hospital, Pui ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
6	Central Mental Hospital, Yeravda ...	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
7	N. M. Mental Hospital, Thana ...	3	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	
8	King George V Infirmary, Bombay ...	2	10	...	...	1	1	...	3	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	12	
9	Lady Dhunbai Jehnagir Home, Bombay.	4	12	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	3	16	
10	Acworth Leprosy Home, Matunga ...	1	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	
11	David Sassoon Infirm Asylum, Poona.	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
	Total ...	32	53	2	4	7	18	...	21	...	1	12	1	4	1	1	13	85	

APPENDIX XI

Population Statement of Certified Institutions for the year ending 31st March 1955

Serial No.	Name of the Institution.	Number on 1st April 1954.	Number admitted during the year 1954-1955 by detention (*plus*).	Number received otherwise than by detention and transfer (such as license revoked etc.) (*plus*).	Number received on transfer from other institutions (*plus*).	Number released during the year 1954-55 (*minus*).	Number transferred to other institutions (*minus*).	Number of deaths (*minus*).	Number of inmates escaped during the period and remained untraced (*minus*).	Number present on 31st March 1955
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Receiving Centre for Males, Chembur.	50	...	...	23	18	...	11	4	40
2	Beggars Home for Females, Chembur.	384	93	...	...	181	...	22	10	264
3	Beggars Home for Males, Worli...	181	146	30	102	95	124	6	34	200
4	Beggars Home for Males, Visapur.	427	239	...	48	163	37	4	39	471
5	Leprosy Hospital, Pui ...	96	38	...	...	17	14	1	1	101
6	Central Mental Hospital, Yeravda.	47	5	...	...		1	3	...	48
7	King George V Infirmary, Bombay.	3	...	...	33	3	19	12	...	2

8	Lady Dhunbai Jehangir Home, Bombay.	298	222	...	16	182	55	16	6	277
9	Mental Hospital, Ahmedabad ...	10	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
10	N. M. Mental Hospital, Thana ...	91	26	...	...	...		5	...	106
11	Acworth Leprosy Home, Matunga.	2	...	...	13	...	3	1	7	4
12	Poona School and Home for the Blind. Poona.	27	22	...	...	10	1	...	18	20
13	Shri Bhikabhai Sankalchand Satia Beggars Home, Odhav Ahmedabad.	35	31	1	14	25	3	...	10	43
14	Beggars Home, Virar ...	26	79	...	10	9	42	...	37	27
15	David Sassoon Infirm Asylum, Poona.	45	...	47	1	11	23	4	16	39
	Total ...	1,722	901	78	260	714	328	85	182	1,652

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